GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2427
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
CODE OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to formulate a code of professional ethics in Medical Practice in the country in order to check certain unethical practices like removal of organs, sale of infants, sophisticated machines in hospitals lying out of order etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d): The Medical Council of India with the approval of the Central Government have notifiedthe Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics)Regulations, 2002 in the Official Gazette dated 6th April, 2002.These Regulations prescribe the various acts of commission and omission on the part of a physician which are construed as misconduct and unethical. These Regulations also make it mandatory for a physician to observe the various Acts like Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, Transplantation of Human Organ, Act, 1994, Pre-natal Sex Determination Test, 1994 or any Act or regulations of the State Govts., Local bodies etc.The Medical Council of India or the appropriate State Medical Councils have been empowered to take disciplinary action against a physician for violation of the provisions of the Regulations. Such erring physician may be awarded punishment as deemed fit which may include removal of his name from the register permanently or for a limited period after conducting an enquiry.